

REMARKS**Summary of the Office Action**

Claims 1-3, 10, 11, 15, and 21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over *Fleming, III* (U.S. Patent No. 6,249,805) in view of *Nielsen* (U.S. Patent No. 6,108,688).

Claims 4-9, 12-14, 16-20, and 22-28 stand objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Summary of the Response to the Office Action

Applicant has amended claims 1, 5, 6, 8, 11, 13, 16, 21, 23, and 24. Further, Applicant has canceled claims 4, 12, and 22. No new matter has been added. Accordingly, claims 1-3, 5-11, 13-21, and 23-28 are pending for consideration.

The Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1-3, 10, 11, 15, and 21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over *Fleming, III* in view of *Nielsen*. Further, claims 4-9, 12-14, 16-20, and 22-28 stand objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Applicant asserts that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) should be withdrawn because the Applicant has made the following amendments to place all pending claims in *prima facie* condition for allowance: Amended independent claim 1 to include all of the limitations of dependent claim 4; rewrote dependent claim 5 in independent form; rewrote dependent claim 6 in independent form; rewrote dependent claim 8 in independent form; amended independent claim 11 to include all of the limitations of

dependent claim 12; rewrote dependent claim 13 in independent form; rewrote dependent claim 16 in independent form; amended independent claim 21 to include all of the limitations of dependent claim 22; rewrote dependent claim 23 in independent form; and rewrote dependent claim 24 in independent form.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully asserts that independent claims 1, 5, 6, 8, 11, 13, 16, 21, 23 and 24 are in *prima facie* condition for allowance. Moreover, Applicants respectfully assert that dependent claims 2, 3, 7, 9, 10, 14, 15, 17-20, and 25-28 are allowable at least because of their dependence from their respective independent claims.

Conclusion

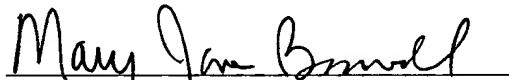
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and the timely allowance of all pending claims. Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of this response, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative at 202.739.5646 to expedite prosecution.

EXCEPT for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. § 1.18, the Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this application including fees due under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required, including any required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 50-0310. This paragraph is intended to be a **CONSTRUCTIVE PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME** in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.1 36(a)(3).

Respectfully submitted,

MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP

By:


Mary Jane Boswell
Reg. No. 33,652

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CUSTOMER NO. 009629
MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP
1111 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004
Phone: 202.739.3000
Facsimile: 202.739.3001